

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM****SUBJECT:** FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Competitive Grant**DEPARTMENT:** Fiscal Services **DIVISION:** Grants Administration**AUTHORIZED BY:** Lisa Spriggs **CONTACT:** Lee Bailey **EXT.** 7125**Agenda Date** 12-9-03 **Regular** ☐ **Consent** ☒ **Work Session** ☐ **Briefing** ☐
Public Hearing – 1:30 ☐ **Public Hearing – 7:00** ☐**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the submission of the FEMA 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant proposal

BACKGROUND

As part of the *Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program*, FEMA, (now part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security), has accepted competitive applications that seek to address the nation's fire problem, particularly the death and injury rates to young children, seniors and the firefighters. The Seminole County EMS/Fire/Rescue Division has proposed a high-tech safety-training trailer to target "high-risk groups" – specifically seniors and elementary school aged children. Serving as an educational tool, the "trailer" will provide a hands-on educational approach to fire and emergency preparedness. The program, based on the national Fire Protection Association's Risk Watch Program, will incorporate lessons tailored to meet Seminole County's unique needs. Additionally the application includes a component for the funding of hearing impaired smoke alarms.

The total project cost is \$84,591 (Fire Prevention unit of \$75,291 and Hearing Impair Smoke Alarms of \$9,300) with a Federal request of \$59,214 and an applicant share of \$25,377 (70% - 30% match). The applicant's source of funding assistance includes Seminole County Safe Kids Coalition (\$2,790) and budgeted costs (\$22,587).

Reviewed by:
Co Atty: _____
DFS: _____
Other: _____
DCM: <u>SS</u>
CM: <u>KB</u>
File No. <u>CFSA01</u>

Request Information

• Are you an international or national organization? No

If No, what is the population/constituency served by your organization? 365196

Project Title	Target Audience	Target Audience Size	Partnerships	Action
Fire Prevention Unit	Children under 14, Adults over 65, Firefighters, Other higher risk group	12500	Yes	View Details
Hearing Impaired Smoke Alarm Giveaway	Children under 14, Other higher risk group	75	Yes	View Details

Request Details

Project Description

Please provide your narrative statement in the space provided below:

1. SEMINOLE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT'S COMMITMENT

The Seminole County Fire Department believes that with proper and realistic fire safety education and training, we can prevent fire loss and death in our community. This type of training has never been available in Seminole County. Realistic fire escape practice and hands-on training have been needed by this community for years. Through the implementation of a comprehensive hands-on fire safety training program with the purchase of a Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer, Seminole County Fire Department and FEMA will be able to finally present this type of education to our population.

The high-technology safety-training trailer proposed in this grant request will target specific United States Fire Administration "high-risk groups"; specifically seniors and grade school aged children. Yet, it will be inclusive of all citizens. It will provide a hands-on educational approach to fire and emergency preparedness by taking the educational program directly to specific high-risk populations. The identifiable at risk groups include children 14 years old and younger (20.8% of our population), seniors over sixty-five years of age (10.5% of our population), and our increasing, Hispanic population (12.1% of the population). Therefore, 43.4% of our population is considered high-risk by U.S.F.A. and the Seminole County Fire Department. This does not take into account seniors ages 55 – 64 (another 9.5%). Currently, the Seminole County Fire Department does not have a comprehensive fire escape / fire sprinkler awareness program.

The proposed Fire Safety Trailer is an innovative public educational tool. The program will be based on the National Fire Protection Association's Risk Watch Program, and will incorporate lessons tailored to meet our county's unique needs. In addition, Seminole County Fire Department is the lead organization for the Safe Kids Coalition. Through Safe Kids, additional fire prevention programs will be added to the trailer. Seminole County Fire Department is also a member of the National Home Fire Sprinkler Association (www.homefiresprinkler.org). This partnership will allow Seminole County Fire Department the opportunity to educate our citizens about home fire sprinklers and the need for them in our community:

Currently, our public education outreach program is reactive, providing fire unit displays and station tours for only schools that request the information. This only targets a small number of grade level students, approximately 3,400 students out of a student population in excess of 62,000.

We foresee the fire department visiting the schools with the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer and fire apparatus to enhance, expand and augment the current limited fire safety training at the conclusion of existing fire safety lessons. In addition to thirty-two (32) elementary schools, we will target our ten (10) Senior/Adult living facilities consisting of over 1200 one and two bedroom dwellings. We anticipate using the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer as a foundation for the development of a new safety program directed at seniors. The safety presentations will be conducted at each of the living facilities regularly so all seniors have access to the information on a continuous basis. We will also coordinate with the Seminole County – Meals on Wheels and TRIAD groups to provide regular scheduled presentations for our senior population. It is our desire to reach the majority of our seniors

3. COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Nearly 5,000 Americans die in home fires annually. The vast majority of these fire victims are the elderly and children.

In Seminole County, last year 4 children died during the summer in a home with no smoke alarm. Education is the most powerful tool in fighting fires and has the potential to save lives and lower property damage and loss. Last year Seminole County had 227 structure fires.

This mobile "classroom" will simulate real-life hazards such as smoke and heat. In addition, it will show the importance of working smoke alarms and fire sprinkler systems. Additionally, it will teach children and seniors how to prevent fires from happening.

It creates a user-friendly environment for children and adults, providing the knowledge needed to not only prevent fires but also the correct steps to follow in a fire situation. Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer training is proven to enhance lesson retention, crossing all age, socioeconomic and ethnic boundaries. These training lessons will include physical and visual use of home safety features including, but not limited to: reporting fires, using 911, planning escape routes, checking doors for heat, exiting bedroom windows to escape, installation and maintenance of smoke detectors, how to recognize fire safety hazards in the home, how to crawl low in smoke, the importance of fire sprinkler systems, how fire sprinkler systems activate, and many other life-saving techniques.

This program will benefit Seminole County and surrounding communities served by other departments by providing the means to educate children, parents, visitors, the handicapped and seniors. Millions of people visit Central Florida every year. This tool will help to provide those persons visiting Seminole County with fire safety education. Fire safety training for children and seniors, in particular, will improve and reduce the number and severity of fires in our jurisdiction and will also enhance firefighter safety.

The interactive, hands-on program the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer provides will increase survival rates due to its realistic teaching methods and decrease unintentional fire occurrences. The training reduces anxiety levels so trained individuals react appropriately in life threatening situations. This proactive approach to life safety skills has long lasting effects, saves lives, reduces injuries and decreases loss from fires. This is a proven effective outreach mechanism, which will effectively and efficiently interact with the local community and the county for dissemination countywide.

4. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Seminole County Fire Department took a bold step in public education last year by becoming the lead organization for Seminole County Safe Kids Coalition. Through this coalition of law enforcement agencies, fire departments, hospitals, schools, and our citizens, we are reaching more and more children and seniors everyday. The Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer will give us the tools to educate our community on fire prevention, fire escape plans, and sprinkler systems. Studies show that learning and retention is increased for individuals when both verbal and manipulative skills are involved. This is crucial for teaching children and having them retain the information for a lifetime of safety. This is also especially important for limited-English speakers.

This training trailer is truly universal and can be effectively used for all populations, in every city. The Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer program is a long-term endeavor that will be self-sustaining long after the grant period. On-duty fire personnel, fire youth explorers and volunteers who are graduates of our newly created Community Emergency Response Team program, will be trained to operate the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer.

We have every expectation that this new educational component in our newly evolving fire education/prevention program will make a significant decrease in the alarming rate of fires we face today and decrease the associated hazards to our firefighters.

5. HEARING IMPAIRED SMOKE ALARMS

Partnerships with Seminole County School Board and coalition members for Seminole County Safe Kids Coalition have shown to be great resources when reaching young people. We believe that it is imperative that children with hearing impairments be provided with life saving devices and education. Currently, there are over 150 children with hearing impairments enrolled in Seminole County Schools. Of those, 75 do not have hearing impaired smoke alarms.

Assurances and Certifications

for their safety and security needs, which are currently unmet.

There are numerous local events and expos that will also be included in this newly developed education/safety program. For example, our county has several locations that attract a large number of people. The City of Altamonte Springs' Cranes Roost Park attracts 150,000 visitors to the "Red Hot and Boom" Independence Day annual event each year, City of Sanford's Independence Day celebration with over 25,000 in attendance, and the annual Halloween in the Park, reaching up to 15,000 people (mostly children ages 14 and under). The Altamonte Springs Mall is one of the largest shopping malls in Central Florida, attracts 10 million shoppers each year. Additionally, the Seminole Towne Center Mall and Oviedo Malls offer special events during the course of each year.

These venues provide the Seminole County Fire Department an excellent opportunity to educate the general public, who visit from all parts of the state and county. Furthermore, three (3) large hospitals are in the local area. We plan to become an interactive partner and have the trailer available for their health and safety programs, thus reaching an even broader audience.

2. REQUESTED GRANT FUNDING BREAKDOWN

The use of grant funds is specifically designated for the direct purchase of the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer inclusive of relevant materials and equipment. The total cost for the Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer is \$ 58,588.00 plus fire prevention instruction of \$ 13,500.00, administrative costs of \$ 1,800 and delivery fees of \$ 1,403 totaling \$ 75,291.00. This grant request is for \$ 52,704 (70% of the total cost), with the remaining 30% or \$ 22,587 provided as matching funds.

GRANT REQUEST COST

Fire Safety Trailer – Basic Cost \$ 39,697

Weather Smart Package \$ 5,300

25 inch TV/VCR for Exterior Viewing \$ 875

Honda EMM5000SXXI Generator \$ 3,750

Wheelchair Ramp for ADA \$ 975

Hearing Impaired Smoke Alarm \$ 169

Complete Fire Safety House Cost \$ 59,991

Delivery fees \$ 1,403

TOTAL COST \$49,136

70% of Fire Safety House (GRANT REQUEST) \$ 52,704

30% match \$ 22,587

The proposed Fire Safety Trailer is a portable unit, which can be easily transported to public venues for educational events. The basic trailer contains the following necessary items:

1. Smoke Machine with wireless remote
2. 911 Phone System Complete
3. Heated Bedroom Door w/Temperature Gauge
4. Remote activation of smoke alarms
5. Stove/Oven/Microwave
6. Non-Toxic Water Based Liquid Smoke Fluid
7. Emergency Escape Ladder
8. Air Condition/Heating system
9. In-line Surge Protector
10. Fire sprinkler system package
11. Hardwired smoke alarms
12. Tapered Roof Design
13. Exterior TV Door
14. Roof Ventilation System
15. 12 Volt Safety Step Lighting – All Entrances
16. UL Certified Appliances
17. Manufacturer Warranty

The proposed Fire Safety / Sprinkler Trailer will make our public safety educational outreach efforts fully operational and quantifiable. After a year of the new program, it will be easy to measure the success of the program, as opposed to the current limited program. We will be able to measure the number of students, seniors, other residents and other jurisdictions who have participated in the program as opposed to previous years. We will also be able to gather data on injuries and deaths due to fire and compare them to previous years. We will be able to target new home developments to find how responsive citizens are to the home sprinkler demonstration. Finally, we will make this educational tool available to other local fire departments and our Safe Kids Coalition wishing to use it in a similar manner.

Project Title	Number of Programs	Total Cost	Action
Fire Prevention Unit	1	\$ 75291	View Details
Hearing Impaired Smoke Alarm Giveaway	1	\$ 9300	View Details

Budget

Budget Object Class

a. Personnel	\$ 13,500
b. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0
c. Travel	\$ 0
d. Equipment	\$ 69,291
e. Supplies	\$ 0
f. Contractual	\$ 0
g. Construction	\$ 0
h. Other	\$ 1,800
i. Indirect Charges	\$ 0

Indirect Cost Details

Agency Indirect Cost Agreement with

Indirect Cost Rate

Agreement Summary

Federal and Applicant Share

Federal Share	\$ 59,214
Applicant Share	\$ 25,377

Federal Rate Sharing (%)	70/30
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* Non-Federal Resources (The combined Non-Federal Resources must equal the Applicant Share of \$ 25,377)

a. Applicant	\$ 22587
b. State	\$ 0
c. Local	\$ 0
d. Other Sources	\$ 2790

If you entered a value in Other Sources, include your explanation below. You can use this space to provide information on the project, cost share match.

Seminole County Safe Kids Coalition, will work with Seminole County Fire Department, to provide assistance with costs for the Hearing Impaired Smoke Alarms.

Total Budget **\$ 84,591**